

Post Shorts

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for July 2, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.



TRAFFIC ALERT

For Traffic Alert info

For the most recent traffic alert information, visit the APG News Web site, www.apgnews.apg.army.mil, and click on the Traffic Alert icon below the weather posting. Maps that indicate traffic pattern changes and locations will soon be posted.

This information is also available at the APG 2012 Web site, <http://apg2012.apg.army.mil>.

Noise alert

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center will conduct several large detonations June 30 through July 11, which are likely to generate sound and/or vibration outside the installation boundaries.

If weather conditions are not favorable, firing will be rescheduled.

For more information, call 410-278-1147, 410-278-1153 or 800-688-8705.

Reduced gate hours for holiday weekend

There will be reduced gate operations at Aberdeen Proving Ground for the 4th of July holiday.

On Thursday, July 3, the Harford Gate (Route 22) in the Aberdeen Area will close at 10 p.m. and the Wise Road Gate in the Edgewood Area will close at 8 p.m.

Both gates will reopen at 4 a.m., Monday, July 7.

The Maryland Gate in the Aberdeen Area and the Route 24 Gate in the Edgewood Area will be open throughout the holiday period.

Holiday refuse pickup schedule

The refuse pickup and recycle schedule for the

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Weeklong celebration highlights Army birthday

Children embrace meaning of Army birthday



Aberdeen Area Child Development Center caregiver Carolyn Singleton, center, and from left, Richard Ricketts, Eddie Williams, Kristen Schoerner and Christopher Robinson watch the U.S. Army Materiel Command Band's Brass Quintet play during the parade celebrating the Army's 233rd Birthday June 12.

Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Environmental awareness is everyone's concern

DSHE

The Directorate of Safety, Health and Environment would like to remind everyone that environmental awareness is everyone's concern.

With summer here there is important information that the Aberdeen Proving Ground community should be aware of regarding the

impact outdoor activities (washing vehicles, changing oil, watering lawns and gardens, and cutting the grass) have on the storm water from APG that enters the Chesapeake Bay.

Washing vehicles

Car washing produces unregulated discharges of nonylphenol ethoxylate

(NPE)—based detergents, greases and oils, heavy metals and salts, most of which flow to storm sewers that discharge to local rivers and lakes.

To help minimize the impact on storm water, take vehicles to a local car wash that uses recycled water, or when washing vehicles at home, wash them on the

lawn and less often. Be sure to turn the running water off while washing a vehicle and use soaps and cleaners labeled non-toxic, chlorine-free, phosphate-free or biodegradable.

Changing oil

Motor oil picks up a variety of contaminants and heavy metals such as

cadmium, chromium, lead, arsenic and dioxins during its use that pose significant risks to human health and the environment.

It takes only one quart of oil to contaminate one million quarts of water (which is about half the size of an Olympic swimming pool), and a single automotive

See **ENVIRONMENT**, page 4

Pharmacist shortage closes KUSAHC pharmacy temporarily

KUSAHC

The pharmacy at Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic must revert to minimal operations June 30 through July 7.

"This situation resulted from a lack of available pharmacists during this period and an inability to cover our pharmacy from other military treatment facilities in the National Capital Region and beyond," said Col. William A. Rice, commander, KUSAHC. "It is imperative that customers plan accordingly."

All prescriptions given as a result of treatment at KUSAHC will be given to the patient on a Department of Defense prescription form.

If the patient cannot wait to have the prescription filled at KUSAHC until after July 7, the patient must go to a local retail pharmacy that accepts TRICARE. There is no co-pay for active duty personnel, but there is for all other categories of

beneficiaries (\$3 for generics and \$9 for brand names – quantity will be limited to a 30-day supply).

No prescriptions from outside providers will be filled during this timeframe.

For refills, requests will be done in the usual manner. At this time, they will be picked up using REX, the automated refill machine. If not already registered to use REX, the patient will be given a temporary PIN, and the pharmacy staff will be available for assistance with the machine.

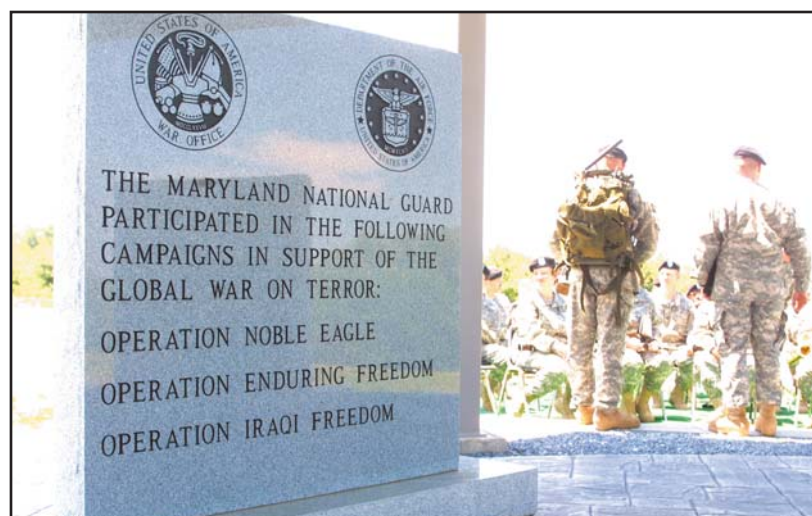
"By Army regulation, active duty personnel being cared for in the Troop Medical Clinic (usually trainees on Aberdeen Proving Ground) can receive their medications via a staff pharmacy technician (pharmacist is not required)," Rice said. "Therefore, it may appear that the pharmacy is in full operation, but it is only permitted to serve this select group of military personnel."

Reilly takes reins at 61st Ord Bde



Col. Dan J. Reilly, left, accepts command of the 61st Ordnance Brigade from Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halstead, chief of Ordnance and commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, at a June 19 ceremony on APG's Fanshaw Field. Outgoing commander Col. Bobby A. Towery, right, spent the past 22 months leading the organization that is primarily responsible for training ordnance Soldiers, but extended the unit's sphere of influence through a host of programs and community involvement. See story on page 12.

Photo by ROGERTEEL, USAOC&S



Soldiers and Families of the fallen come together for the dedication of the Fallen Warrior Memorial May 26 at Camp Fretterd, Md.

Photo by MAJ KRISTINE HENRY, 29TH MPAD

MDNG Fallen Warrior Memorial dedicated on Memorial Day

Story by **LAURA BETZ**
Maryland National Guard

The Battlefield Cross signifies the end of a calling for one Soldier. The possessions displayed are those left unwillingly by their carriers and often invoke a deep sense of anguish.

Despite the pervasive sadness seen May 26 at the Fallen Warrior Memorial ceremony at Camp Fretterd, Reisterstown, there was a great degree of appreciation and camaraderie felt on behalf of the fallen Soldiers' Families and the National Guardsmen present as the memorial was unveiled. The event

honored eight fallen Soldiers: Chief Warrant Officer William R. Ruth, Pfc. Carlton D. Newman Jr., Cpl. Samuel M. Boswell, Cpl. Bernard L. Ceo, Sgt. Brian R. Conner, Staff Sgt. Michael J. McMullen, Command Sgt. Maj. Rodger W. Haller and Sgt. 1st Class Colin Bowen.

Ursula Bowen emphasizes the difficult situation left for her family.

"There's a mix of emotions and pride for myself, being a wife, but yet it is very difficult because my husband left three daughters," Bowen said. Even though she is at

See **MEMORIAL**, page 11

Parents responsible for curfew and supervision of children

Story by **YVONNE JOHNSON**
APG News

With the onset of summer vacation, youths with too much time on their hands are prone to get into mischief. For this reason, the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security is reminding all personnel who live on or bring children to Aberdeen Proving Ground of the installation 'Command Policy on Curfew for and Supervision of Children.'

The policy letter applies to all military and civilian personnel and their family members while they are on the installation.

"As summer starts to heat up, we want to make sure parents

understand the regulations," said DLES Detective Mark Keller. "Some may not understand that parents are ultimately responsible for supervising their children."

The Command Policy on Curfew for and Supervision of Children is as follows:

- Parents are ultimately responsible for the behavior, safety and supervision of their children and adolescents.

- Exceptional children.** For children defined as having special needs, as per AR 608-75, their disabilities are primary factors in determining the need for supervision; their ages are a secondary factor.

See **CURFEW**, page 11



Community and APG: Partners in Education

Luncheon recognizes community, APG partners in education

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

Partners in Education marked the end of the school year by recognizing and thanking Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations and local schools during a luncheon at Top of the Bay May 4.

School officials and APG representatives from APG organizations and leadership were present to give and accept awards.

Under PIE, military units adopt a school and coordinate with teachers and staff to provide educational support or assistance to its students.

Eileen Campbell, APG School Liaison, shared the Local Action Plan, and thanked Dawn Kilmon, a parent volunteer who works closely with the local schools. She also thanked and introduced Michelle Shaivitz, Harford County Public Schools coordinator of Partnerships for Student Achievement, who presented a slide show of PIE activities.

Col. Jeffery S. Weissman, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, presented a video about the current and upcoming projects for base realignment and closure and APG 2012 to help those that work outside the installation understand the magnitude of transformation coming to APG.

“It is amazing when you see this kind of leadership throughout the community, something important must be going on,” Weissman said. “It is very important, and our children are our most important asset; they are our future. Without partnerships like these, we would not have a future.”

Weissman added that educators are critical to the success of APG’s future. More than 8,000 new positions will be added at APG, and many jobs on APG require a science or technology background, so it is vital that students become interested in these subjects.

“We need an educated workforce to fulfill all the new positions that are coming in,” he said. “We are interested in setting our children up for success.”

He added that the Army Community Covenant has brought installations closer together within their communities.

“We need to continue to partner with folks like you, hopefully working with folks inside and outside the gate,” he said.

Weissman commented about how

BRAC and APG 2012 are challenges for local officials.

“I think in the future, partnerships will be even more important. I thank you for being a part of this,” Weissman said.

He commented how leadership is sensitive to the challenges of relocating, and that PIE helps ease the transition. The Peer Helper/Student 2 Student program, for example, assigns current students to new students to get them acclimated to a new school.

“Civilian Families will face some of the same challenges as military Families do when they are relocating,” Weissman said.

“This is probably the best example of what this partnership can do,” he said. “We are looking to improve other partnerships as well, to improve the quality of life at APG and outside of the gate.”

Maj. Lilieth Whyte, 61st Ordnance Brigade S3, read the recognitions.

“The schools and organizations honored were awarded for their outstanding efforts to provide children with the tools to become good citizens, to develop and grow as individuals and to contribute to our nation’s growth, prosperity and well-being,” Whyte said.

Weissman and Col. Bobby Towery, commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Mechanical Maintenance School, also gave a few words of thanks and presented the recognitions with Weissman.

“If you didn’t care in your hearts for the children you wouldn’t be here. On behalf of the armed forces, I thank you for what you do each and everyday. You are all heroes,” Towery said.

Special Certificates were awarded to the following groups/individuals:

Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade under Capt. Jacob Grabia, was recognized for their outstanding efforts in mentoring and demonstrating the Army Strong philosophy with Edgewood High School students.

Representing the U.S. Army Environmental Command, Bob DiMichele accepted recognition for the consistency of their efforts and dedication of commitment with Edgewood Elementary School students.

Dr. Rob Lieb represented the U.S. Army Research Laboratory Materials World Module and was recognized for its development. Their inquiry and design-

based teaching skill sets enhanced by new technology, will affect the critical thinking skills of middle school students in all Harford County public schools.

Towery was recognized for his outstanding efforts from 2006 through 2008 in supporting the PIE through the Field Training Experience at FOB [Forward Operating Base] Wolverine and the development of a PIE standard operating procedure.

After the schools were recognized, Campbell and Shaivitz received the Commander’s Award for Civilian Service.

“It has been a great year,” Campbell said. “Harford County Public Schools have worked well with us in establishing the first Local Action Plan to improve student transitions. Aberdeen schools have been most proactive in providing an additional Middle School Jump Start for summer transfers, and Peer Helpers/S2S groups will provide greater assistance for hundreds of high school relocating students.

“The Partners in Education Luncheon was APG Garrison’s demonstration of appreciation for improved communication. We provided certificates of recognition and pins to the partners in an effort to say thanks for their teamwork. So many individuals were vital in our efforts to improve community relations. We took this time to thank each one,” she said.

Recognitions

- Aberdeen High School**
61st Ordnance Command & Staff Dept
- Aberdeen Middle School**
61st Ordnance Brigade
- Churchville Elementary School**
APG Marine Corps Detachment
- Edgewood Elementary School**
Army Environmental Command
- Edgewood Elementary School**
Headquarters & Headquarters Company
- Edgewood Middle School**
143rd Ordnance Battalion
- Halls Cross Roads Elementary School**
Noncommissioned Officers’ Academy
- Meadowvale Elementary School**
APG Air Force Detachment
- Roye-Williams Elementary School**
16th Ordnance Battalion
- St. Joan of Arc RC Elementary School**
Joint Personal Effects Depot
- Cecil County Public Schools**
Edgewood Chemical Biological Center
- Harford County Public Schools**
U.S. Army Research Laboratory
- Harford County Public Schools**
Edgewood Chemical Biological Center

HCPS/APG Local Action Plan

Timely records transfer

A Memorandum of Information & Parents’ Records Request will remind out-processing Soldiers of a 7- to 10-day processing period to request copies of records.

Easy transition-first two weeks

- School counselors will provide outreach to students and resources to parents and staff.
- School Liaison will publicize the Army Stabilization Act.
- An HCPS representative will attend meetings in preparation for BRAC.

School calendars, schedules

- Develop/maintain school-based and school liaison Web sites.
- Provide HCPS calendar, events and schedule information.

Teacher professional development

APG provides Transition Counselor Institutes that address successful transition practices.

Supporting the school partnership

- Maintain partnerships in education with local school systems.
- Establish the new HCPS Local Action Plan using the Memorandum of Agreement as the guiding principle.

Provide information on graduation/promotion requirements.

Assist students transitioning into careers/college.

Establish an HCPS Partnership Liaison and APG School Liaison partnership to promote career fairs and greater communication.

Technology Needs Teens event sparks interest in science, technology, engineering, math

Story and photo by
MARY DOAK
ECBC

Five months of planning exploded into a huge success at the Technology Needs Teens event hosted by Harford Community College May 28.

TNT, a new, one-day event designed to promote awareness of the positive attributes of science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, education was sponsored by HCC and Harford County Public Schools. Various industry/academia partners such as Science Applications International Corporation, Battelle, Booz Allen Hamilton, Survice Engineering, Towson University and government agencies including the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development, and Engineering Center, U.S. Army Research Laboratory and the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center also supported the event.

“When I first introduced this idea five months ago, I could never have anticipated the level of success we had,” said Marlene Lieb, the TNT planning committee chairperson representing HCC. “Thanks to all of the cooperation, creative ideas and contributions made by each of you, the first TNT was an outstanding success.”

Kim Hoffman, CERDEC lead career management specialist,



ECBC Technical Director Rick Decker observes the “Chemical Reactions Sleuth” presentation as students from Aberdeen Middle School demonstrate what they learned during the Technology Needs Teens event May 28.

said, “TNT was a rewarding day of reaching out to students, hoping to spark their interest in science. It also showed that research and development command laboratories pulling their forces could produce impressive results.”

For their part, ECBC staff, who conducted three of the 11 presentations given by local

industry, academia and government representatives, made a positive impression on 200 Harford County Middle School students and nearly a dozen faculty members/administrators.

Joseph Domanico, team leader of the ECBC Pyrotechnics Team, and chemical engineer Giancarlo Diviacchi demon-

strated indoor pyrotechnics and smoke during their program, “What is Exothermicity?,” while Michael Trzeciak, of the center’s Advanced Design and Manufacturing Team, used Recon Robot (R2) to exhibit the capabilities of robotic chemical/radiological detection and offered hands-on experiences for students. Repre-

sentatives from the ECBC Kids & Chemistry Program, Sue Procell, Elaina Taylor and Jennifer Wolfe-Pupa, provided students with an opportunity to participate in experiments testing seven different chemical reactions with their “Chemical Reactions Sleuth” presentation.

“This is the best day I’ve had this year,” one student said. “It was awesome seeing the different kinds of science stuff.”

ECBC Technical Director Rick Decker took time out of his day to observe the presentations and provided closing comments highlighting the benefits of seeking education and careers in science and technology.

Other members of the TNT planning committee included Michel Parker and Lauren Manning from SAIC; John Casner, of the Northeastern Technology Council; Dennis Kirkwood, supervisor of science, and Mark Hertzog, assistant supervisor of science, from Harford County Public Schools; Procell, ECBC Kids & Chemistry; and Michael Galumbeck, a volunteer serving Harford Community College.

(Editor’s note: Mary Doak, ECBC Community and Educational Outreach program manager, attended TNT event and authored this article.)

APG News

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday’s paper.

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Commentary: Having a safe Fourth of July

By
RON KRAVITZ
APG Installation Safety
Division

Well June is almost over, the kids are out of school and the 4th of July is almost upon us.

To most of us this is really the beginning of the summer. We have a four-day weekend and some of us will get in our vehicles and head to the beach or camping grounds. (Drive safely.) Others will have a Family cookout. Whatever activity is planned, be mindful that fire danger and injuries are more likely on this holiday than any other.

About fireworks

People buy fireworks and they explode when they're not supposed to. Sparklers burn children and rockets come down on the roofs of houses.

The first thing to ask yourself is: Are fireworks legal where I live? Only ground based sparkling devices that are non-aerial, non-explosive and do not contain chlorates or perchlorates are legal in Maryland: paper wrapped snappers containing less than 3/100 grains of explosive composition, and snakes that contain no mercury and are not regulated by DOT. Although it's a lot of fun to set off your own blasters, it doesn't pay as there are so many fantastic professional displays in the area.

Know also that if you get caught with illegal fireworks there's a \$250 fine. Fireworks are also illegal on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

To find out more about perchlorates, visit <http://www.councilonwater-quality.org/know/myths.html>.

Glow sticks are a popular item for smaller children but like everything else they have their dangers. If the plastic container is punctured, the chemicals in the glow sticks can cause skin irritation. If taken orally it can be very harmful. If it gets on the skin, wash the area immediately with soap and water. If ingested, call the poison control hotline immediately at 800-213-6800.

Sparklers are a great way to light up the night but, it's important that they be properly supervised. When using sparklers make sure the child's clothes are tight-fitting so the sparks don't catch their clothes on fire. If you have children with longer hair, make sure it's tied back since hair is easy to catch fire. When the sparkler is finished, place it (hot end down) into a bucket of water. Do not put the sparkler on the ground – where it can pierce a foot or start a fire.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission revealed that nearly 10,000 individuals per year are injured seriously enough to warrant a trip to the hospital. Of these injuries, one third was caused by fireworks that are considered illegal in this country or were homemade.

For those who may live in another state or might be traveling to another state, here are some basics:

- Check local laws. Make sure that fireworks are legal where you are.
- If they are: know what's legal and what's not.
- Don't let small children play with fireworks or set them off. Adults should either ignite them or closely supervise older children

who are doing it.

- Read the warnings and instructions. Then, and, this is hard for us guys, follow them to the letter.
- Wear eye protection and keep all parts of your body out of the line of fire.
- Make sure the audience is out of range of misfired or misdirected rockets and roman candles.
- Set off the fireworks, outdoors only, on a hard, flat surface away from anything flammable.
- Only light one firework at a time.
- Wait several minutes before walking up to a firework that didn't go off. Don't try to relight duds or misfires. Soak them in water.
- Have a bucket of water or a garden hose handy.
- Never horseplay with

fireworks or throw them at another person.

- Never carry fireworks in your pocket (ouch).
- Never set off fireworks in a metal or glass container.
- Buy fireworks only from reliable retailers.
- Never experiment with fireworks or try to make homemade ones.
- Avoid storing fireworks for extended periods. If you must store them, keep them in a cool, dry place.
- When all is finished, thoroughly soak the expended fireworks in water before placing in a trash container.

The APG Safety Office wants everyone to have a safe and happy 4th of July holiday.





Veterans’ Voices

Health care ‘report card’ gives VA high marks

Story by
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Army News Service

A new “hospital report card” by the Department of Veterans Affairs gives the department’s health care system high marks, with VA facilities often outscoring private-sector health plans in standards commonly accepted by the health care industry.

In February, Congress directed VA to complete the report card, highlighting measurements of quality, safety, timeliness, efficiency and “patient-centeredness.”

“This report demonstrates VA’s determination to be open and accountable for the quality and safety of the care we provide,” said Dr. James B. Peake, secretary of Veterans Affairs. “No other health care organization provides this much information about its ability to care for its patients.

“This report is a comprehensive snapshot of the quality of care VA provides to our veterans. From

waiting times and staffing levels to hospital accreditation and patient satisfaction, this report demonstrates VA is providing high quality care to the veterans we serve,” he said.

Among the report’s findings:

- Ninety-eight percent of veterans were seen within 30 days at primary care facilities, 97 percent at specialty clinics. (Veterans requiring emergency care are seen immediately.)
- All of VA’s 153 medical centers are accredited by the independent Joint Commission which accredits all U.S. health care facilities.
- The quality scores for older veterans are similar to those for younger veterans.

Although screening for breast and cervical cancer for women in VA facilities exceeds screening in private-sector facilities, women veterans lag behind their male coun-

terparts in some quality measurements, the report noted.

VA has already launched an aggressive program to ensure women veterans receive the highest quality of care, including placement of women advocates in every outpatient clinic and medical center.

Health care was a major topic at VA’s National Summit on Women Veterans Issues June 20-22 in Washington.

The report also found minority veterans are generally less satisfied with inpatient and outpatient care than white veterans. That disparity will be the focus of an in-depth study, based upon input from veterans, which will be completed this summer.

“Disparities in treatment and satisfaction based on gender or ethnic background are unacceptable,” Peake said. “VA has a robust program to look at disparities and to deal with the underlying causes.”

The report card is available on the Internet at **www.va.gov/health/docs/Hospital_Quality_Report.pdf**.

Earn money in Army referral program

USAREC

The Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command is encouraging Soldiers, Reservists, Department of the Army civilians and others to take advantage of the Referral Bonus program, in which individuals can earn \$2,000 for referring a new enlistee into the Army.

Soldiers, U.S. Military Academy cadets, Reserve Officer Training Corps contracted cadets, members of the Future Soldier Training Program, Army component retirees and DA civilian employees can earn \$2,000 for referring their acquaintances to Army and Army Reserve recruiters, if those referrals result in enlistment.

Eligible individuals may receive a referral bonus for referring anyone, except individuals who have previously served in the military and immediate Family members. Immediate Family members include spouse, parent or step-parent, child (natural, adopted or step-child), brother or sister.

To receive the \$2,000 referral bonus, the individual making the referral must provide the name of the

applicant as a referral using the Army Referral System-Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team (ARS-SMART) referral process, prior to the applicant conducting an appointment with an Army recruiter.

At Aberdeen Proving Ground, 1st Sgt. Raymond Reynard, Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion, successfully referred five individuals. Reynard said he sees the program as a great way of “getting Soldiers in the Army.”

“We’re a nation at war,” Reynard said. “And technically, we’re all recruiters,” he added in reference to the NCO Corps. “I would recommend all Soldiers do [the same].”

The \$2,000 Referral Bonus is payable in two lump sums. The eligible sponsor receives \$1,000 once the Soldier (referral) has commenced basic training, and \$1,000 will be paid once the Soldier (referral) has completed and graduated from one station unit training (OSUT) or advanced individual training (AIT).

To be eligible for the bonus, referrals must be submitted through the “Make a Referral” link at **www.2k.**

army.mil or by calling USAREC at 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6-0473.

Those who are not eligible to receive a referral bonus include:

- Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Accessions Command, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Cadet Command, U.S. Army Reserve Command
- Retention and Transition Division, National Guard State Recruiting Commands and any other members of the Army serving in a recruiting or retention assignment
- Soldiers and Army component retirees serving as instructors, assistant instructors or contracted instructors in the Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps program or Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program
- Family members
- Individuals assigned to duties regarding which eligibility for a bonus could, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, be perceived as creating a conflict of interest
- Retired Department of the Army civilians (unless they are Army component retirees)

Environment

From front page

oil change produces four to five quarts of used oil. Residents living on APG can work on their vehicles at the Auto Craft shop. At the shop, fluids are recycled and spills are prevented from entering the storm drain system.

Watering lawns, gardens

Be careful not to over water lawns. Over watering allows pollutants and particles of soil or sediment to be picked up and carried into storm drains. Some grasses need more water than others, so determine the kind of grass before deciding to water the lawn. When watering the lawn, soak the grass through to the roots, not just the top of the blades. Water early

in the day, especially as the weather warms, to reduce evaporation loss. Plant ground cover and water-wise plants and shrubs rather than grass on sloped ground. Use mulch to stabilize soil, prevent runoff, control weeds and hold in moisture.

Grass cutting

Grass clippings clog storm sewers, which can increase the risk of flooding. The clippings can decompose which uses up oxygen needed for the survival of aquatic life. The decomposing organic matter creates foul odors and taste in drinking water. To help prevent this from occurring, use a bagger when mowing lawns and sweep the

streets, curbs and sidewalks more often.

Signage on APG

Storm water sign maintenance and replacement on APG is an ongoing work effort. Anyone who knows of any storm drain signs that need to be replaced, or has any questions or issues regarding storm water, can contact Richard Wiggins or Marley Nickle of the DSHE Environmental Compliance Division, 410-306-2279.

For more information about the APG storm water program and how to help reduce storm water pollution, visit **http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/directorates/ecd/StormDrain/index.htm**



Commentary: Juveniles who violate the law on APG face the Juvenile Disciplinary Advisory Council

By
CAPT STEVE ARTYMOWICZ
OSJA

If you violate the law on Aberdeen Proving Ground, depending on the severity and type of offense, you could be charged either under Maryland state law or federal law. If you are a service member, then, of course, you could be charged under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. However, assume you live on APG with your son or daughter, or you live off-post and visit APG with your child, and he or she violates the law. Is your child now facing state or federal criminal charges? But for a few exceptions, the answer is no. However, APG does have an effective mechanism to adjudicate juveniles who violate the law on the installation - the Juvenile Disciplinary Advisory Council.

The JDAC is a five member board chaired by the deputy garrison commander. Other members include a representative from the Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security, the Staff Judge Advocate, Family Advocacy and the Garrison sergeant major. Additionally, a police detective with the Investigative Services Division is assigned the additional duty of juvenile program manager, appearing and presenting the case to the JDAC.

The JDAC is responsi-

ble for adjudicating on-post juvenile criminal cases. After the juvenile is arrested, the police will process the juvenile nearly the same as an adult. The juvenile will then be released to his or her parents.

Instead of filing criminal charges, however, the police have two options. In a case where the juvenile is a Family member of a service member, the case is referred to the JDAC for proper disposition. If the juvenile has no affiliation with the military, the case is referred to the Harford County Department of Juvenile Justice for proper disposition.

The juvenile and his or her parents are required to be present when the JDAC convenes. Each JDAC member reviews the case file prior to the start of the JDAC. Once it convenes, the juvenile program manager presents the case and the juvenile and the parents are given an opportunity to address the JDAC.

If the juvenile does not admit to the offense, the JDAC acts as a fact-finding body to determine whether the juvenile committed the offense. After the case is presented, the members often ask the juvenile questions about the offense and stress the seriousness of the violation and the consequences of committing crimes on the installation.

After the case is heard, the JDAC issues a “sentence” or adjudication. The JDAC is authorized to order up to eight weeks of com-

munity service in addition to appropriate classes and counseling offered by the Family Advocacy Office.

The JDAC also has the authority to restrict the movement of the juvenile while on the installation. For example, if the juvenile stole an item from the Post Exchange, the JDAC can bar the juvenile from the PX for a certain amount of time.

In most cases, the JDAC

effectively addresses juvenile crime on the installation. However, in some instances, the JDAC hears cases involving repeat offenders. In those cases, if the sponsor lives on APG with the juvenile, the JDAC has the authority to remove the sponsor from Family Housing.

For cases where the juvenile lives off-post, the JDAC can bar repeat offenders from entering

APG. This action, however, is reserved for juveniles that continually violate the law while on the installation.

Any comments or ques-

tions about the JDAC program can be addressed to Detective William Marion with the Investigative Service Division on APG, 410-278-3609.

Community Notes

FRIDAY

**JUNE 27
MARTHA’S
TREASURE
HUNTERS**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a cruise, 9 to 11 a.m. for children only, ages 6 to 10. Tickets cost \$15 per child.

Children become pirates of the bay aboard the skipjack Martha Lewis in search of sunken treasure. They will read the treasure map and help navigate the boat to find the treasure. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**MARGARITAVILLE
CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville

Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer and soda included. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 28
NIFTY NESTS**

How do birds create such intricate homes with only a beak? This program provides participants with an understanding of the challenges and techniques the birds use. This program will be held 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Ages 8 to 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$3 per person. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**CRITTER DINNER
TIME**

Come watch the turtles, fish and snakes eat and learn more about these fascinating creatures. This free program for all ages begins at 1:30 p.m. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**MARGARITAVILLE
CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, light refreshments. Margaritas, beer and soda included. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**SUNDAY
JUNE 29
DISCOVERY WALK**

Join a naturalist on a nature walk to discover what creeps, crawls, and flies around Leight Park. This free program will be held 10:30 a.m. for all ages. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**LIGHTHOUSE
CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Con-

servancy, Inc. will offer a narrated lighthouse cruise, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$35 per person. Cost includes a three hour cruise enjoying water views of Concord Point, Fishing Battery Island and Turkey Point lighthouses. A box lunch is also included. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

**MAGICAL
MONARCHS**

Learn what makes monarchs so special and how to help these beautiful butterflies. The program will be held 1 to 2:30 p.m. for ages 8 to adult. Ages 8 to 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$4 per person and includes a Monarch survival packet. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

BASKET BINGO

The Elk Lodge 1564, located on 940 Pulaski Highway, Havre de Grace, will hold Basket Bingo 3 p.m. Doors open 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$12 per person, extra packs cost \$5 per person. Cost includes food and drinks. Proceeds will benefit breast cancer research.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Shirley Wagner, 410-939-2045, e-mail sjwagner@comcast.net or Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338, e-mail missanne1047@zoominternet.net.

**ANIMAL
COMMUNICATION**

Bring the whole Family and join retired wildlife biology professor Glenn Dudderar to learn about and practice communicating as some wild species do - wolves, turkeys, frogs, geese and more. Everyone gets a free turkey caller. This program will be held 3 to 4 p.m. for ages 6 to adult or Families. Cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per Family. Registration is required.

For more information, to register, or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-

612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**FAMILY NIGHT ON
THE BAY**

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Family Night on the Bay, 5 to 7 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Treat the Family to a night on the bay with pizza, beverages and water ice. Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)



Chapel News

Worship schedule

Aberdeen Area
Main Post Chapel, building 2485

Catholic worship
For specific services, visit <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/chaplain/pdf/Catholic%20Information.pdf>.

8 a.m. Sunday Reconciliation
8:45 a.m. Sunday Eucharist
Collective Protestant Worship Services
10:15 a.m. General Protestant Worship
Gospel
Noon Sunday

Edgewood Area
building E-4620

Collective Protestant Worship Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday

Catholic Worship
For specific services, visit <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/chaplain/pdf/Catholic%20Information.pdf>.

10 a.m. Sunday Reconciliation
10:45 a.m. Sunday Eucharist

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Post Shorts

Fourth of July holiday week will change. A normal refuse pickup will be made July 1. On July 2, there will be normal recycle pickup; refuse pickup for the Trailer Park, Bayside Village, Top of the Bay, Hopkins and School will take place July 2. Refuse pickup for Patriot Village will take place July 3.

**RAB meeting
tonight**

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., Thursday, June 26, at the Edgewood Senior

Center on Gateway Road. The topic of the meeting will be an update on the Lauderick Creek Study Area.

Board meetings are open to the public; all APG employees and citizens are invited. For more information, call the Information Line, 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

**BJ’s representa-
tive available
today**

A BJ’s representative will be at the Aberdeen Recreation Center 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., June 26.

For more information, call Patti Harkins, assistant funds manager, Civilian Welfare and Post Restaurant Fund, 410-273-2075 or 410-278-4603.

**Last day for Thrift
Shop \$2 bag sale**

The Thrift Shop will hold a \$2 bag sale through June 26 for all items in the Sale Room. Shoes, purses, clothing, draperies, bed spreads, and much more are there for the treasure

hunter. This sale excludes any military items.

For more information, call 410-272-8572 during store hours: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of the month. Consignments are taken 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

**Phone number
for Wildlife and
Marine changes**

The new telephone number for the Wildlife, Marine and Environmental Law Enforcement Office in the Edgewood Area is 410-436-6181.

**Register for next
Strong Bonds
seminar**

Register now for the next “Strong Bonds,” an all-expense paid three-day, two-night couples training conference July 31 through Aug. 2 for 14 married couples.

The training will be held

at the Harbor Inn Hotel, St. Michaels, Md.

To register, visit <https://www.strongbonds.org/>.

For more information, contact the APG Chaplains’ Office, 410-278-4333.

**Volunteers need-
ed for Retiree
Council**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Retiree Council is being revitalized. The purpose of the council is “to provide the commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground, installation commander, Fort George G. Meade, Md., and the U.S. Army an insight into the problems and issues expressed by retirees residing on APG and surrounding areas.”

To help accomplish this, the APG Retiree Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the council. Interested parties should send an e-mail with contact information to: ricky.godbolt@us.army.mil or jatraino@aol.com.

(Editors Note: More Shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg.army.mil under Shorts.)

APG Outdoor Journal

Commentary: Down by the riverside

By
BILL ARMSTRONG
APG Wildlife and Marine
Law Enforcement Division

Occasionally, when I'm out moseying around the installation, I'll come across sections of old barbed wire fence or decaying foundations with pieces of rusting farm machinery scattered about, reminders of what were once homesteads on the Bush and Gunpowder Necks.

Now I'm not a history buff per se but I am intrigued by the names of some of the places we have here at Aberdeen Proving Ground like Penny Come Quick, Grace's Quarters, Old Baltimore and Poole's Island. Oft times I wonder: who were these people, and what life was like back then, back when things were much slower, in the days of the sailing ships and light houses, when ducks were so thick that they darkened the sky and oyster bars stretched for miles.

One Sunday afternoon last winter I got a telephone call from an old codger who lives just down the road a piece. After listening to him blowing all kinds of smoke and telling me what a wonderful job we were doing here at APG protecting the wildlife, he started telling me about his Family's old home place which was located in one of the more remote areas, wondering if there was any way that he might be able to visit the area sometime.

Like I said it was wintertime and there wasn't much going on, so I ended up spending a couple of hours with him, letting him traipse around his old stomping grounds and reminisce a bit. As it turned out, he brought along a bunch of old photographs which showed the house and some of the surrounding countryside. I got quite an education out of it.

Anyway, at one point in our conversation, he brought up a place called Riverside, asking me if I had ever been there, maybe figuring I'd be interested in it because of my involvement with wildlife. He said that his grandfather had been a duck hunting guide there and at another place called Cedar Grove, sometime around the turn of the century. Well, like I said, when I hear someone mention names of old places that used to be here on the proving ground, my ears 'kinda' perk up.

This past Sunday he and I tromped through the bushes, brushing off the ticks and chiggers, heading for Riverside.

I was 'sorta' halfway familiar with the area already, but up until the moment he mentioned it, I had never heard it called Riverside. If someone had asked me about it prior to last week, about the only thing I could have told them was that there were remnants of an old foundation there and what looked like an old cellar, and maybe, if you looked real hard, you might be able to see the traces of an old road leading up to it.

His description of the place fit the location perfectly, right down to a narrow lane, which was bordered on both sides by "hedge apple" trees leading down to where the old boat landing had been.

It was fascinating just listening to him; as his words seemed to bring "life" back to the ruins.

"The duck hunters would start coming to Riverside beginning in early November," he began. "They'd come by train to Edge-



Photo by OFFICER GEORGE ROBERTS

All that remains of Riverside, a favorite Presidential retreat of yesteryear.

wood, and from there they would make their way out to the big house in wagons or carriages. Some would stay at the main house if they figured on hunting Monk's Creek. Others would continue on down to Cedar Grove. Usually those that went down there would hunt Fairview Point or Lauderick Creek."

Turning around, as if to emphasize what he was saying, he continued, "Now you've got to understand; these were money people we're talking about, big money from down in Baltimore and Washington. I remember my grandfather telling me that one time they took President Taft out and really had a hard time

of it, you know getting him in and out of the boat and all. He was so big, and he weighed so much...you know, more than three hundred pounds. And there was another one too; I think he said it was President Cleveland that they took out."

As we walked around the place, examining the bricks and the stone foundations,

"These," he said, pointing to a stone in the foundation, "came from up at Port Deposit, and the bricks, they were probably made right here in Edgewood."

And later, as we were leaving, heading over to where he thought the Cedar Grove house once stood, "There was quail and partridge here too. It wasn't just ducks. All of this was farmed back then, wheat fields and corn and such. They would hunt the farms too."

I asked him if he was ever inside the Riverside house or the club at Cedar Grove.

"No," he said, "I'm just going by what my grandfather told me. He called Riverside the big house, so it must have been pretty nice. Somebody told me one time, I think maybe I heard it from one of the maids that used to work out here, that there were over a hundred doors in the place. You've got to remember, these were "mon-

ey" places," he continued.

As we were leaving, he turned to me, "This was the best of the best back then," he continued. "Between here and the Susquehanna Flats, what with the wild celery and all, there was no other place like it anywhere. It wasn't unusual back then for a man to get fifty ducks a day."

Thinking back on it now, with it all grown over with thick vines and high weeds, it's difficult for me to imagine that once upon a time Presidents of the United States stayed here, perhaps sitting out on the veranda in the evening with a cigar, quietly gazing out over the river and contemplating the future of our nation.

If they could speak, I wonder what they would say of us today, and the way we've looked after our inheritance.

Like I've said before, this Aberdeen Proving Ground sure is some place, ain't it?



FAMILY, MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

APG engineer honored in All-Army photo contest

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

A mechanical engineer for the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity was recognized for receiving Honorable Mention in the People category in the All-Army Digital Photography Contest for Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons and professionals June 13. He also accepted a check for \$200 on behalf of his sister, Caitlin (who lives in Connecticut) for winning second place and an Honorable Mention in the same category.

Col. Jeffrey S. Weissman, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Dr. Forrest Crain, the director of AMSAA, presented the check, to John Fitzgibbons.

Weissman congratulated Fitzgibbons and presented him with two coins, one for him and one for his sister for representing APG in a positive way, and encouraged him to continue to pursue his hobby.

Fitzgibbons, who said his sister will be splitting the check with him, remarked that he will be using the prize money towards new camera equipment.

The proponent for this contest is the FMWR Command, which provides opportunities for all members of the FMWR-eligible community (Family members are eligible to participate) to engage in skill development activities and explore their creativity.

“[Caitlin’s] ‘Mist’ is an image of a girl walking through a botanical exhibit along the Seine in Paris, France, at night. The street lighting in the background illuminates the water droplets creating an almost mystical feel,” Fitzgibbons said. “‘Paris Commuter’ features an afternoon commuter on the Parisian metro; the blurred out reflection in the metal imparts a moving effect on the photograph, very representative of the setting.”

Catlin has won three other photography contests. She said that she has been interested in pho-

tography since elementary school. She currently works as a graphic designer designing audiobook company packages, catalogs, and posters and is a freelance photographer.

“I was fascinated with looking at National Geographic magazines, and found the images and idea of photography to be captivating. The idea of ‘the decisive moment’ - knowing just when to trigger the shutter, is the driving force behind my love for the art,” Catlin said.

“[My photo] ‘Family Green’ is the silhouette of the Fitzgibbons Family in front of a building located in the historic Fells Point district of Baltimore. The bright green paint against the dark silhouette provides a strong contrast giving that photo a ‘little extra,’” he said.

Fitzgibbons became interested in digital photography three years ago as a way to document yearly road trips.

“I was surprised with the photos that won and happy to hear that I received honorable mention. I am also happy for my sister,” he said. I am also looking at different cameras to buy with the prize money. I want to go to more local areas in the state like Gunpowder Falls State Park and Susquehanna State Park.”

This was the first year that applicants were allowed to submit their photos digitally. Previously, people would submit prints using film from a 35-milimeter camera.

The number of photos submitted to the Aberdeen Proving Ground Army Arts and Crafts program for the annual All-Army Photo Contest was significantly higher in 2007 than in previous years due to the ease of sending digital pictures.

2008 Army Arts and Crafts Contest

The Army Arts and Crafts Contest is an annual, juried competition of 2- and 3-dimensional artwork held in separate groups for novice and accomplished artists and craftspeople. All authorized patrons of FMWR are eligible to enter.

Rules for submission of entries, as well as entry



‘Family Green’ received Honorable Mention in People category.

Photo by JOHN FITZGIBBONS

forms can be downloaded from <https://artsandcrafts.fmwrc.army.mil>, or at the Arts and Crafts Centers.

Entries (artwork) must be submitted to Arts and Crafts Center, building 2407, 410-278-4207 no later than 4 p.m., June 30.

Installation Arts and Crafts Contest coordinators will finalize local contests and advance selected entries to the DA level by July 31. Judging of the Army-level contest will take place in August or September. Images of winning work will be posted in an online gallery in September.

Eligibility

Authorized FMWR patrons are eligible to enter, with the exception of employees of the Army Arts and Crafts program.

Artwork must be entered in one of the following categories:

- Ceramics
- Wood
- Fibers and textiles
- Glass
- Metals and jewelry
- Mixed media—3D
- Drawings Prints
- Water base painting
- Oil base painting
- Mixed media-2D



‘Mist’ took second place in People category.

Photo by CAITLIN FITZGIBBONS



‘Paris Commuter’ also received Honorable Mention.

Photo by CAITLIN FITZGIBBONS

Activities/Events

Adult kayak lessons

Outdoor Recreation will offer kayak lessons for adults, 5 to 7:30 p.m., July 11, 18 and 25 at Skippers Point. Lessons cost \$30 per person. Kayaking lessons will teach the essential skills to be a knowledgeable kayaker.

For more information or to sign up, call Fawn Heitman, 410-278-4124.

Summer fitness programs

The Aberdeen Area Fitness Center in building 320 is offering lunchtime and evening fitness sessions July 1 to Aug. 30.

Lunchtime sessions, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., will be Step and Weighted Bar on Mondays and Strength and Hand Weights

on Wednesdays.

Twice weekly on Monday and Wednesday take Step With Joe, 5 to 6 p.m.

Cost is \$44 per session or \$4 per class. At least 12 registrations are needed to hold a session.

For more information, call 410-278-9725 or visit www.apgmwr.com.

Baltimore Orioles Games

Purchase tickets for Orioles baseball at Camden Yards:

- Kansas City Royals, 7:05 p.m., July 3
- Detroit Tigers, 7:05 p.m., July 18
- Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m., Aug. 25
- Oakland Athletics, Sept. 7, TBD
- Cleveland Indians,

7:05 p.m., Sept. 9

- Toronto Blue Jays, Sept. 28, 1:35 p.m.

For more information on other Baltimore Orioles games or to purchase tickets, call 410-278-4907/4011.

Do-it-yourself New York City tours

FMWR has scheduled several day trips to New York City – eight hours for sightseeing, shopping, seeing a Broadway matinee, venturing into China Town and more, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18 and Nov. 15.

Cost is \$40 per person. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. and will return 10 p.m. Open to all DoD card holders.

For more information or to register, call or vis-

it FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail MWR_Leisure_Travel@apg.army.mil.

New York City Liberty Tour

FMWR Leisure Travel Services is offering a New York City Liberty Tour July 19.

Cruise aboard the famous Circle Line cruise

ship down Manhattan harbor to the Statue of Liberty for the best view in the city. Following the cruise, enjoy lunch on the coach touring famous and not-so-famous New York sights narrated by a professional and friendly step-on guide. Then explore and shop in midtown Manhattan. Shop for souvenirs, browse at Macy’s or stroll Times Square.

Cost is \$90 per person and includes roundtrip transportation, cruise and lunch. The bus will depart 7:20 a.m. and return 9:30 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit FMWR Leisure Travel Services, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907, or e-mail MWR_Leisure_Travel@apg.army.mil.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Drivers Ed

Drivers Education classes are conducted by Rules Driving School, Inc. Monday thru Thursday, 6 to 9:15 p.m. (Classes are also available 2:30 to 5:45 p.m.) During the summer schedule classes will only be offered 2:30 to 5:45 p.m. There are no classes on federal holidays.

Classes are held in Aberdeen at the Community Center, 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard, room 304, July 14 thru 29 and Aug. 4 thru 19. For more information about the Edgewood Area class, call 410-278-7571.

Class includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

Cost is \$295 per student. Last day to register for the class is one week prior to the first class. Students must be between 15.9 and 18 years of age. Parents must attend the first day of class. Open to all DoD ID cardholders.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of June 23

Special #1: Tuna sub with choice of mayonnaise, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onions, potato chips, cookie and soda for \$6.95.

Special #2: Egg salad sandwich on toast with lettuce, tomato, cookie and soda for \$3.55.

Week of June 23

No specials

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.





Photos by MAJ KRISTINE HENRY, 29TH MPAD
Soldiers observe a moment of silence for those who have fallen in the line of duty during the Fallen Warrior Memorial Dedication held May 26, at Camp Fretterd, Reisterstown, Md.

Memorial

From front page

a loss, she said, “The National Guard has been with you, they are very responsive...anything and everything has been provided.”

Jim Gladwell, best friend and fellow firefighter of Mike McMullen articulated, “We suffered a loss, and this void will never be filled...the world was a better place with him in it and a lesser place with him gone.”

David McMullen, former Marine and father of Mike said, “My friends...used to pick on the National Guard mercilessly [the mindset is always] Marines are first, but you know that when the chips are down, it’s brother to brother.”

The togetherness and support from the firefighters was visible with the banner draped over the entryway by Sgt. Brian R. Conner’s fellow firefighters. Overall the show of love and support continued and could be seen on the faces and in the tears of many Family members.

Erin Bowen, 14-year-old niece of Collin Bowen, stated, “It was perfect.”

In regard to the ordeal as a whole and the National Guard’s involvement Sandy Haller, wife of Roger Haller said, “They are what they say, they have been here to help them...continuing the motto of the ‘mission first and Family always’.” The Hallers’ son, Daniel reenlisted after the memorial service.

The event was indicative of many combined efforts, the memorial itself and the blue pavilion it stands under were large-scale projects. Col. Mark Tracey, the officer in charge of the event, said a good 40 to 50 people including construction workers and the band made the ceremony possible. He went on to say that the intent is to have a ceremony every Memorial Day.

Fred Bastion, head engineer for the memorial project, coordinated with contractors and local building



Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, adjutant general for Maryland, views the Fallen Warrior Memorial.

material suppliers during construction of the memorial and its immediate surroundings.

Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, as well as many local representatives, were present at the event.

“The event went superbly, I never expected anything less from the National Guard; the monument was a true dedication to the Families, all in all the day was a success,” Brown said.

Curfew

From front page

Curfew

Children under age 15 will be inside their own or someone else’s quarters between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. Children age 15 to 17 will be inside their own or someone else’s quarters between 10 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. unless they are under the supervision of a parent, guardian or responsible adult 21 years of age or older. Exceptions include returning home from a community or school organized function, community facility, returning from a Youth Service program; while performing official employment or responding to a bona fide emergency.

Supervision

- Parents and guardians must consider carefully the amount of responsibility their children can successfully assume before leaving them unsupervised or charging them with the supervision of other children. Even children in the same age group have varying abilities. Therefore, children handle different degrees of responsibility.

Children ages 4 years old and younger: Children in this group require constant, direct supervision at all times. These children must be in direct visual contact; this includes, but is not limited to, playing in a fenced-in backyard with parental supervision through patio doors, or enrollment in an APG childcare program. The person providing supervision must be able to respond to any emergency or threatening situation. Periodic checks should be made on sleeping children. Children in this group should not be left alone at any time.

Children ages 5 thru 10 years old: Children in this group require supervision on a regular basis, during out-of-school hours, during a parental duty day. The person providing supervision must be constantly available, on the premises, and must check frequently to

ensure that the child remains in the designated safe area. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner prescribed for younger children.

Children ages 11 thru 12 years old: These children may be left alone for short periods of time not to exceed two hours. The person responsible for a child in this group must be aware of the child’s location and activities. If children of this age group are left alone, there must be an emergency plan; they should have a person available for them to call and they should know that person’s telephone number. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner for one of the younger age groups.

Children ages 13 thru 17: These children may be left alone for longer periods. They must have an emergency plan. At a minimum, they should have a person available for them to call, and they should know that person’s telephone number. Children ages 13 to 15 may not be left alone overnight. Children ages 16 to 17 may be left alone overnight but may not supervise/babysit younger children overnight unless they have attended and completed the American Red Cross Babysitting Safety Course. If a child in this age group is not responsible or mature enough to remain within these guidelines, then the child must be supervised in the manner for one of the younger age groups.

Supervision of children by other children: No child under 13 is allowed to supervise/baby sit younger children. Children ages 13 to 15 may be responsible for younger children for reasonable periods of time – up to eight hours but not overnight. There must be an emergency plan in place and older children must be developmentally capable and mature enough to care for younger children. Babysitters age 13 to 17 on

the installation must be certified through the American Red Cross Babysitting Safety Course which is offered by Army Community Service/Child Youth Services, which will maintain a list of qualified babysitters. Babysitters should not watch more than four children at a time and only two may be under 2 years old.

Supervision of children in motor vehicles: Children under 8 years old will not be left in an unattended vehicle for any amount of time unless they are under the supervision of a reliable person at least 13 years old. Additionally, Maryland Vehicle Law requires that a motor vehicle may not be left unattended by the driver or person in charge of the vehicle until the engine is stopped, the ignition locked, the key removed and the brake effectively set. Individuals who violate this policy may be subject to criminal prosecution under Maryland Family Law and/or Maryland Vehicle Law.

Compliance

Failure to comply with the policies set forth in this letter can result in referral to the Family Advocacy Case Review Committee, Child Protective Services and/or the appropriate Juvenile Court Services.

- - A finding of child neglect and/or abuse as defined in AR 608-18 may be appropriate when a child, regardless of age, is left unattended under circumstances involving potential or actual harm to the child’s physical health or safety, or serious emotional harm due to abandonment or lack of care. Anyone leaving a child under the age of 8 unattended without a reliable person at least 13 may be subject to criminal prosecution under Maryland law.

- - Child neglect that results in a lack of appropriate supervision is considered improper conduct that can result in termination of the privilege of occupying government or leased quarters as well as other administrative or disciplinary measures deemed appropriate by command.

Towery departs after lifting brigade to new heights

Story by
ROGER TEEL
USAO&S

For the past 22 months, the 61st Ordnance Brigade, the Aberdeen Proving Ground organization responsible for training ordnance Soldiers basic and advanced skills, has been led by a good ol’ boy from Mississippi, Col. Bobby A. Towery.

With a lightning-quick wit and a deep satchel of Southern expressions he always attributed to his mother, Towery advanced his organization – and the Army – in many ways during his tenure.

Brig. Gen. Rebecca S. Halstead, chief of Ordnance and commander of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, noted Towery’s ability to deliver one-liners as well as his achievements during the brigade change of command ceremony June 19.

“Thanks for helping us take our duties seriously, ourselves less so,” Halstead said. “In complete seriousness, though, what makes you so very effective

as a leader is your willingness to share your heart and soul with each of us.”

Telling Towery his grip on the command guidon “was tighter than a tick on a hound dog,” Halstead noted how the direct involvement of “Team 6” (Towery’s call sign) was significant.

“For starters, you and your team have trained [more than] seventeen thousand Ordnance Warriors for our Army during your two years,” the general said. She noted several highlights:

- Towery fostered an outstanding working relationship with the civilian workforce by enlisting all civilians as integral members of the team and including senior civilian members on his board of directors.
- He spearheaded the transition to National Security Personnel System for nearly 250 Department of the Army civilian employees.

- The brigade’s combatives training and competition are second to none.
- The Towery team’s extraordinary work in Dis-

tributive Learning was recognized by the Army Training Support Center – naming the 61st Ordnance Brigade the Distributive Learning Champion for the Army.

- Towery focused on the expansion of the eOrdnance University which now includes more than 26,000 members, more than 18,000 forum discussion group users, and more than 3 million blackboard site page monthly hits. He envisioned benefits such as completing mandatory training requirements from home during a Soldier’s off time, working maintenance issues throughout the world through troubleshooting techniques, and organizing Knowledge Management by assigning subject matter experts to ensure the quality of the electronic university.

- Towery prioritized the personnel and equipment resourcing at Forward Operating Base Wolverine so training there now includes: rollover drills in a HMMWV [high mobility multipurpose wheeled

vehicle] Egress Assistance Trainer, an Improvised Explosive Device Detection Lane, the Army Standard Targeting System with Short Range Training Ammunition to provide the most realistic training during the Combat Logistics Patrol Live Fire Exercise, as well as new guard towers, cement barriers, a tactical sand table and enhanced entrance control points.

- Towery and his “BRAC Battlestaff” poured innovative and critical thinking into the challenges associated with Base Realignment and Closure requirements. The team developed feasible courses of actions and strategized for shaping and setting the stage for success.

- Towery’s community involvement in promoting school partnerships engaged students and faculties alike. Towery touched the hearts of educators when they experienced the Forward Operating Base Wolverine training exercise, and in drafting a School Partnership Operating Procedure, which will

help provide clarity for all future Partnerships in Education.

“Most notably,” Halstead said, “your assistance in developing the Aberdeen Proving Ground Partners in Education program will serve to promote interest in assisting future military students. Thanks for believing in the future.”

Towery is moving just up the road, to Carlisle Barracks, Pa., where he becomes the chief of staff for the Army War College. His wife Lisa, and their sons Patrick and Nathan, have been residing in Carlisle during Towery’s stint as commander.

“Bobby and Lisa, we thank you for your selfless service, your leadership, your dedication to the team and most importantly, your friendship,” Halstead said, as she moved on to introduce the new commander, Col. Dan Reilly.

“As one great team departs another arrives. The Ordnance Center and Schools are blessed to welcome the strong -- Army

Strong -- command team of Col. Dan and Renee Reilly. “I have known Dan for many years, and the Army could not have chosen better.” Halstead continued. “He is combat proven, a brilliant logistician, and also has a wonderful sense of humor. There is no doubt that the transition between Bobby and Dan will be one of the most seamless the brigade has seen.

Reilly comes to the unit via a stint as commander of the 626th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Ky., and Tikrit, Iraq.

A graduate of Eastern Illinois University, Reilly earned a bachelor’s degree in communications and holds two master’s degrees, one in administration from Central Michigan University, the other in national security studies from the U.S. Air Force’s Air University.

The Reillys have four children: Megan, 18, Matthew, 16, Noel, 11, and Kayla, 8.

SMA inaugural class showcases Senior Capstone projects



Sarah Farley, right, a Science and Mathematics Academy senior from Aberdeen High School, explains her Senior Capstone Project to Amy Schoenberger, a parent, and Megan Schoenberger, an 8th grader who will be attending SMA in the fall, during the Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects May 20. SMA is a magnet school of Aberdeen High School for gifted students who show an interest and aptitude for science, mathematics and technology.

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG NEWS

There was excitement in the air as the inaugural graduating class of 36 students from Aberdeen High School’s Science and Mathematics Academy displayed and presented their Senior Capstone Projects to peers, mentors and teachers during a gallery walk on the evening of May 20, a week before they graduated from SMA.

The Senior Capstone Projects were the result of a year-long research class in which the students worked closely with a mentor who was a professional scientist, mathematician or engineer. Eighteen scientists, mathematicians and engineers came from Aberdeen Proving Ground organizations.

The Senior Capstone Project intended to accomplish three major purposes for the students:

- Integrate science, mathematics, and technology in an authentic way.
- Provide for interaction with the professional science community.
- Allow for individual inquiry and discover using the tools, techniques and valid protocol inherent in real research.

The mentors volunteered their time to guide students and impart their expertise in an area that they are interested in studying. Many students chose a project in a field of study that they want to

pursue in college.

Several students earned scholarships as a result of their academic achievements while attending SMA.

SMA at Aberdeen High School is a magnet program serving gifted and talented students enrolled in Harford County Public Schools. The academy offers a college preparatory program that provides students with the opportunity to experience challenging coursework integrating the sciences, mathematics and technology with emphasis on real-world application. With the exception of the fine arts, foreign language, and health and physical education, all courses are taken at the honors level with other members of the academy in a small learning environment. The program started in the 2004-2005 school year.

“I am very proud of these students,” said Dr. Dennis Kirkwood, supervisor of science for Harford County Schools, during the gallery walk. “They have challenged themselves throughout their academic career. Not only have they learned new skills, the students are confident in their research and have presented their work in a professional manner. Our graduates will be in great demand.”

Kirkwood, along with SMA Coordinator Donna Clem and the former AHS principal, David Volrath and current AHS principal Tom Szerensits, were the driving force behind the develop-

ment of SMA.

Students that attend SMA learn valuable skills that will help them in their academic success in the future.

Kelly Colopietro, a graduating SMA student who was the APG’s Youth Volunteer of the Year for 2008, conducted a comparative analysis of competitive athletes and vital capacity.

“I think that the time management skills that I have learned while attending SMA were very

valuable,” Colpietro said. “It taught me how to balance difficult classes while still participating in extracurricular activities.”

Sarah Farelly, who plans to attend Drexel University to study electrical engineering, studied the best way to view a laser light.

“I really feel like my time spent at SMA has prepared me for college--we’re here learning concepts and doing projects that other students do not get to do until college,” Farelly said.

Jeff Woods, who plans to study engineering at Harford Community College said, “I feel like this program opens a lot of doors.”

Wood’s mentor was Dr. Mike Forster, who works at Black and Decker. Woods added that he would like to work at Black and Decker someday, and having a mentor that works at Black and Decker is a way to network while in high school. His project was on designing a switch mode paper supply.

Bob and Sharon, parents of Christine Harvey, a senior at SMA, said that they are very pleased with the progress that Christine has made throughout her four years attending SMA.

“It is a challenge for the students going out of their comfort zone,” Bob said. “Prior to attending SMA, Christine went to a school with the same students for nine years, so she had to make new friends by coming to SMA. We feel that the easiest choice is not always the best choice. We wanted her to stretch

herself by attending this school. She has always been at the top of her class, and we felt like she could really excel at SMA.”

David Webb, who works at APG’s U.S. Army Research Laboratory, mentored Christine.

“It is very rewarding to see a student learn the material so quickly, and she was able to grasp the majority of the work independently,” Webb said.

Christine’s project dealt with the analysis of the effects of bin width on the estimation of the dispersion of the M1028. She used computational science to gather her data. She plans to attend the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, where she received a full scholarship to study computer science.

“We are the first class at SMA, the ‘guinea pig class,’ and so the teachers tested a lot of ideas with us, and changed some of the program as we went along,” Christine said. “I am glad that I went to SMA. It was nice going to a small school where we got individual attention.”

During the celebration program that followed, parents, students, teachers, mentors and special guests dined on food catered by Tidewater Grille. Later that evening, awards were given out in the Aberdeen High School auditorium, celebrating the students’ academic achievements.

For more information about the academic program, consult the SMA Web site, www.science-andmathacademy.com.

List of APG mentors and SMA students		
Mentor	Organization	Student
James Novotny	U.S. Army Garrison	Bret Borden
Adam Judd	Battelle	Jacob Burlin
Dr. Michael Quinn	U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion & Preventive Medicine	Kayleigh Cole
Dr. Margaret Hurley	U.S. Army Research Laboratory	Kimberly Dykeman
Dr. Matthew Abrams	U.S. Army Research Laboratory	Adam Flores
Dr. Jim Bailey	U.S. Army Garrison	Brentley Gladney
Dr. Heidi Hoard-Fruchey	Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense	Michelle Guignet
David Webb	U.S. Army Research Laboratory	Christine Harvey
Lalena Wallace	U.S. Army Edgewood Chemical & Biological Center	Emmalyn Landbeck
Dr. John McDonough	Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense	Ashley Larsen
Dr. Rob Lieb	U.S. Army Research Laboratory	Aaron League
Ira Carlson	Jacobs Engineering	Joshua Mike
Amy Tank	U.S. Army Research Lab	Margaret Novak
Philip Peregino	U.S. Army Research Lab	Vikesh Patel
Robert Herman	Battelle	Brian Pinto
Dr. Brett Talbot	Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense	Daniel Smith
Amy Tank	U.S. Army Research Laboratory	Rachel Sandlain
Dr. Jim Bailey	U.S. Army Garrison	Danielle Whitaker
Dr. Robert Kan	Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense	Yao (Adam) Xiao

Four inaugural annual awards were presented to outstanding SMA seniors:

The C. Warren Mullins Award for leadership potential was awarded to Vikesh Patel.

The Robert L. Johnson Awards, named for the Army Alliance treasurer and former Aberdeen Proving Ground civilian leader, named for perseverance and problem solving was presented to Alyssa Ramirez.

The Dr. Bill Richardson award for creative vision went to Emmalyn Landbeck.

The Donna Clem award for spirit and purpose for SMA was awarded to Michelle Guignet.



Army News

MRAP kits completed in record time



Photo by STEVE GRZEZDZINSKI
Paul Vanhuvender performs operational verification of electronics systems on a mine resistant ambush protected vehicle in Southwest Asia. Vanhuvender is an electronics integrated systems mechanic in the Command, Control and Computers Avionics Directorate.

Story by
JENNIFER CAPRIOLI
Army News Service

To meet a critical Warfighter need, Tobyhanna Army Depot produced a month's worth of kits in just nine days.

On Feb. 11, the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command requested 30 mine resistant ambush protected vehicle kits to be completed in one week.

Last year, the U.S. Central Command announced that they may require as many as 17,700 MRAP vehicles to accommodate Soldiers. MRAP vehicles include, but are not limited to, multi-mission combat, ambulance variant and troop transport vehicles.

The MRAP vehicle is more resistant to improvised explosive devices than up-armored high mobility multipurposed wheeled vehicles because it is built to deflect blasts, says Tim Knabel, lead engineer for the MRAP project. Knabel is a mechanical engineer in the Design and

Development Branch, Engineering Design, Development and Manufacturing Division, Production Engineering Directorate.

"Central Command was looking for someone to just step up and get it done," Knabel said. Depot personnel received the requirement for a quick response manufacturing effort Feb. 11, and began building the bill of materials and process route sheets the same day.

The kits include parts such as mounts, wall brackets, supports, antennae mounts and other hardware. Certain parts are fabricated at the depot, such as the brackets and plates. The parts support antennas and systems such as Blue Force Tracking and the Crew Vehicle Receiver Jammer, which are mounted in the MRAPs using the kits. Currently, about 19 different C4ISR end-items, including installation kits, are being integrated into the MRAP vehicle. If the kits are easily available, it can be a quick one-day turnaround to install the systems in vehicles, Knabel said.

The depot team tasked with the request

was familiar with the project before Feb. 11.

"We knew this was going to be a big project," Knabel said. "We started by showing the customer that we could fabricate brackets with a turnaround time of about a day."

TACOM recognized the effort of the depot team, so they requested 50 brackets in two and a half days. Eventually, the depot was tasked to complete 500 brackets, which they produced in one week.

"This kind of quick response is what got us noticed by TACOM," said Charles Niemotka, a lead engineering technician in the division's Manufacturing Engineering Branch. "Turnaround time is key with this project."

Parts fabrication began on the third day of receiving the request, after materials and hardware were ordered. The Sheet Metal Fabrication Branch was first in line. Based on the production packages from the manufacturing cell, they determined how and what materials to fabricate.

"We worked on the project Wednesday through Saturday, working as many hours as needed, including overtime, to complete our part," said Robert Aten, branch supervisor. The branch is in the System Integration and Support Directorate's Industrial Services Division.

"We have had similar quick response time projects; the guys in the shops know their work is going overseas and that drives them to react accordingly," Aten said.

Next the pieces were sent to the Finishing and Etching Branch for an initial cleaning. Aluminum and steel pieces were coated with rust inhibitors and paint adherents. The branch has worked on similar jobs, so they had experience with what needed to be completed.

Experience helped with the efficiency of the project, said Jim Johnson. He worked on the project and is an electroplating worker in the branch, which is part of the Systems Integration and Support Directorate's Refinishing Services Division.

The pieces were then sent to the Welding Branch, where they are assembled and

welded to form the parts. A tungsten inert gas machine was used for welding light metal, and a metallic inert gas machine was used for heavier metal.

The welded parts were returned to the Finishing and Etching Branch for a final cleaning to prepare them for painting. After that, the parts were primed and painted in the Component Paint Branch.

The fabrication process took five days to complete. The branches accommodated the workload by having personnel work overtime, their regular day off, or over the weekend.

After seeing how efficient the depot could produce the 30 kits, TACOM requested production of an additional 2,200 kits to be completed by July, Knabel said.

"Normal turnaround time for thirty kits would be a month," Niemotka said. "Although the depot has been tasked with similar projects, nine days is not a normal turnaround time, which makes it pretty phenomenal."

The depot's MRAP Project Team is developing a quick reaction capability process which will eventually be applied to other projects, said John Andrejko, mechanical engineering technician, Manufacturing Engineering Branch.

Tobyhanna Army Depot is the Defense Department's largest center for the repair, overhaul and fabrication of a wide variety of electronics systems and components, from tactical field radios to the ground terminals for the defense satellite communications network. Tobyhanna's missions support all branches of the armed forces.

About 5,500 personnel are employed at Tobyhanna, which is located in the Pocono Mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Tobyhanna Army Depot is part of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command. Headquartered at Fort Monmouth, N.J., the command's mission is to research, develop, acquire, field and sustain communications, command, control, computer, intelligence, electronic warfare and sensors capabilities for the armed forces.

America Supports You: radio program gives troops a voice

Story by
AIR FORCE MAJ MIKI GILLOON
Special to American Forces Press Service

One program on Phoenix's KFNX 1100 AM News-Talk Radio has a simple mission: give troops the world over a voice through a weekly show.

Voice of the Troops debuted on News Talk KFYI last year as a monthly feature created by Dave Whitten, one of the origi-

nal and current hosts. The show later moved to KFNX and evolved into a weekly Sunday feature.

"The philosophy is simple: We want to give a voice to those boots on the ground and hopefully be an outlet our servicemen and women can use to get their message out from the front lines," said Whitten, who currently hosts the show with retired Army Lt. Col. Dawn Lake, who served in Afghanistan.

Air Force Brig. Gen. Noel T. "Tom" Jones, commander of 56th Fighter Wing, was a special guest on Voice of the Troops, helping the station kick off its fourth program. Questions asked of the general during the show included local topics such as the importance of the Barry M. Goldwater Range, encroachment issues and training in military operations areas. When Whitten asked Jones about his most

harrowing combat experience, the general spoke of a night sortie he was involved in during Operation Desert Fox.

"We were bombing the Republican Guard barracks in the center of Iraq. There were anti-radiation missiles being shot at the surface-to-air missile sites, and when missiles hit ground, everybody woke up," he said. "There was a lot of triple-A (anti-aircraft artillery), and it was pretty eye-opening."

Listeners can tune into Voice of the Troops between 7 and 8 p.m. Mountain Time on Sundays to hear airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines talk about their personal or

combat experiences. The program streams live at **www.1100kfnx.com**. (Editor's note: Air Force Maj. Miki Gilloon serves in the 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office.)

New twist on old story: Dog eats military records

Story by
ANDREA WALES
Army News Service

Teachers have heard it innumerable times from children who decided to play outside instead of knocking down, but now it was a grown man lamenting the actions of his "best friend."

"The dog ate my homework!" is something we heard and said as kids," said Col. Wanda Good, commander, Human Resources Command-St. Louis. "But this is truly, 'The dog ate my retirement papers!'"

To Master Sgt. Robert R. Chaney's golden retriever, manila envelopes must be like a bone from the butcher shop. When Chaney arrived home one day, he found Darcy devouring a government envelope - not an accidental nibble while delivering the mail to her master, but a deliberate chow-down.

Chaney was dismayed when he discovered the large envelope contained all the paperwork related to his retirement from the Army Reserve.

"I will just have to get this replaced," he said to himself. And instead of a scolding, Darcy got a hug

and a pat on the head from her forgiving master.

But it just wasn't going to be that easy, Chaney thought. The documents were in such bad shape that the only clue to their point of origin was the phrase, "Transition and Separations Branch."

Chaney decided to investigate further by using the Internet. He typed in his only clue, and a seemingly endless list of Army jargon and acronyms appeared. Chaney selected a link to Army Echoes, a magazine for Army retirees. Army Echoes had information about HRC-St. Louis, which handles reserve component retirements.

The next morning, Chaney dialed the toll-free number for HRC-St. Louis. Before long, Chaney was talking to the person who had approved his retirement packet: Sharon Prost of the Personnel Actions And Services Directorate.

Prost offered to fax Chaney the documents, but Chaney wanted a retirement certificate that was suitable for framing, so he asked her to mail a new packet.

"I will put it all in the

mail today," she said.

In a word, Chaney was "shocked." That kind of professionalism can be hard to come by in this day and age, but it's the status quo for HRC-St. Louis.

In two days, Chaney received a new retirement packet, this one untouched by Darcy the golden retriever.

Chaney wrote a letter of thanks to Prost's supervi-

sor, Sheila Dorsey. The letter made its way to the desk of the HRC-St. Louis commander, who recognized Prost for her professionalism and efficiency in a small ceremony.

"I thought I'd heard it all, but this was a new one on me," the colonel said.

It goes without saying that Darcy is no longer allowed to get the mail.



Sports

AMEDD Soldier serves it up for All-Army team



Sgt. Elizabeth Thompson, a preventive medicine specialist with the 1st Area Medical Laboratory, practices for the All-Army Volleyball Team at Hoyle Gym on Aberdeen Proving Ground.

Story and photo by
MAJ JOE SCROCCA
20th SUPCOM PAO

There is only one thing better than serving the nation in the Army, that is serving the nation in the Army by playing a favorite sport.

While all Soldiers have their part to play, Sgt. Elizabeth Thompson's part, for at least a few weeks every year, is as a member of the All-Army Volleyball Team.

A preventive medicine specialist with the 1st Area Medical Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Thompson first started playing volleyball when she was 11 years old. Originally from Sacramento, Calif., Thompson became passionate about her sport as a member of the Rio Americano High School team that finished third in the state volleyball championships in 2000.

Thompson joined the Army in 2004 and first competed on the Women's All-Army Volleyball Team in 2007; that year the team finished third in the Women's Armed Forces Vol-

leyball Championships at West Point.

In April, Thompson traveled to Fort Bragg, N.C., for five weeks of grueling tryouts for the 2008 All-Army Volleyball Team. For the second year in a row Thompson was selected as one of only eight members of the prestigious All-Army Team.

From June 3 to 7, the Army Volleyball team took the court at the Women's Armed Forces Volleyball Championships at Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, N.C.

"The competition was very strong this year," said Patty Rye, coach of the All-Army Volleyball Team. "We faced outstanding athletes from each branch of service and Sergeant Thompson played a valuable role for the team; excelling at several positions to include outside hitter, back row specialist and libero."

"This was a great experience," said Thompson. "I had the opportunity to compete against some of the military's best players, to travel and to interact with service members from all over the military and

the world. It was great, and I am so thankful my command gave me time and opportunity."

Competing against the Navy, Marine and Air Force teams, Thompson and the Army Team split the six-game tournament; as they went 3-3 with two wins over the Marines and one win against the tough Air Force team. The Army team finished second this year, tied with Air Force, as Navy took the title with a perfect 6-0 record.

"Sgt. Thompson is a terrific Soldier, a superb athlete and tough competitor," said Col. Peggy Carter, commander of the 1st Area Medical Lab. "Even though it was hard on her squad to have her out for a month, it's important to support the larger effort and send our best Soldiers to engage with our inter-service and international peers."

While Thompson loves volleyball her true love is still the Army. Now that the competition is done for the year, she plans on completing her bachelor's degree in sociology and either becoming a warrant officer

or submitting a 'green to gold' packet and becoming a commissioned officer.

According to the Armed Forces Sports Program, athletes compete in 18 armed forces championships, seven national championships and 20 international championships. The program is open to all active duty personnel, to include Reservists and National Guard on active duty status.

The objectives of the Armed Forces Sports Program are to:

- Promote goodwill among the armed services through sports.
- Promote the positive image of the armed services through sports.
- Provide the incentive and encourage physical fitness by promoting a highly competitive sports program.
- Provide the avenue for military athletes to participate in national and international competitions.

Interested applicants for any All-Army team can get more information at the Army FMWR Web site or by contacting APG Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Big Dogs win second volleyball championship

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The APG Garrison "Big Dogs" volleyball team successfully defended its title, June 6, beating the Joint Personal Effects Depot, 21-14; 22-20 to win its second consecutive civilian league volleyball post championship at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center June 6.

The Big Dogs went undefeated through the regular season and playoffs and JPED had only one loss - to the Big Dogs.

"We lost to this team but we won once too," said JPED coach Carlos Soto before the game. "We think we can do it again."

JPED felt otherwise, according to Albert Jones, the eventual team MVP.

"We haven't lost yet and we don't plan to start now," Jones said.

In the first game, the Big Dogs jumped out quickly to a 7-3 lead due

mostly to tough defense at the net. JPED kept things alive, closing within four points at 12-8 but the Big Dogs pulled away again and closed the game out 21-14.

The second game was much tighter with JPED first pulling even to the Big Dogs at 4-4 then pulling away to lead 9-6 as the humidity in the gym began to affect the players.

Jones broke a 10-10 tie with a vicious spike at the net and the Big Dogs seemed to gain momentum from there, regaining the lead 13-10, forcing a JPED timeout.

JPED mounted a ferocious comeback eventually tying up the game 19-19, and then 20-20 before the Dogs broke away for a 22-20 hard fought win.

"We played with confidence, fought hard and had a lot of fun," Soto said. "I'm very proud of this team."



From left, the Joint Personal Effect Depot's Nicholas Laporte, 42, watches as teammate Brian Perez, 40, and a hidden player defend against a volley from the Garrison Big Dogs' Chris Damko, 43, who is backed up by coach Pete Leon Guerrero, 23, and Pedro Rodriguez, 7, during the volleyball championship game at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center June 6.

Big Dog coach Pete Leon-Guerrero said that discipline got the team its second consecutive championship.

"We played with spirit and motivation," Leon-Guerrero said. "This was the goal all year."

He thanked team coordinator, Mikey Graziano,

and named Jones the team MVP presenting him with the championship trophy.

"Everybody on this team

deserves this," Jones said. "We played hard all year and never let up. Hopefully, next year we'll be back."

143rd out slugs 16th to win Amateur Boxing Tournament 8-7

Story and photos by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The 143rd Ordnance Battalion successfully defended its turf with an 8 to 7-bout win over the 16th Ordnance Battalion to take the Amateur Boxing Tournament at Hoyle Gym June 7.

High heat and humidity had no effect on the young boxers on both teams who slugged it out for all they were worth, giving the crowd a great show.

Festivities started with the singing of the national anthem by Samuel McPeak, the son of 143rd battalion commander Lt. Col. Mary McPeak and the winner of the children's category of the APG Talent Showcase in May.

Jermaine Ford coached the 16th team assisted by Frank Ways and Laura Pula.

Ford said he was proud of his team, which he began training six weeks prior.

"They did an excellent job and showed a lot of heart," he said.

143rd coaches Francisco Barosio thanked his fighters and assistant coaches Luis Mojica, Christopher Johnson and Jim Blackett for the hard-fought victory.

"We started training about eight weeks out with seventy and ended up with



The 143rd's Luis Torres, left, tries to pin Jason Edwards, 16th, right, to the ropes during the second match of the evening. Edwards came back to win the round and the match.

this great group," Barosio said. "They trained hard and put in a lot of time and effort."

During their fights, each Soldier took instruction well, he added.

"I kept telling them to stay focused on their training and not to get caught up in the commotion and it'll pay off," he said.

Set to take on a new assignment in the near future, Barosio will turn the training

mission over to Mojica.

"They put on a good show," Mojica said of the fighters. "They worked hard and it paid off. We're gonna continue to do that."

The 143rd Ordnance Battalion color guard posted and retired the colors and Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Leathers gave the invocation.

Referees from Washington, D.C.-based USA

Boxing, James Cooper and Rick Ellis, presided over the rounds and ring girls Sarah McPhearson and Erika Berry drew cat calls and whistles each time they paraded around the ring.

Judges for the contest were James Bell, Dennis Katona, Willie Hardy, Charles Heinsohn and Randy Waits.

Ralph Cuomo served as scorer and Donna Coyne was the time keeper.



143rd Ordnance Battalion boxing coach Francisco Barosio, in black holding trophy, poses with his fighters and assistant coaches after beating the 16th Ordnance Battalion to win the Amateur Boxing Tournament at Hoyle Gym June 7.



The 16th's Christopher Trusty, left, has his hands full of the 143rd's Joseph Lawyer, right, as he moves in for the kill. Lawyer went on to post his unit's sixth win of the night.



Photo by RACHEL PONDER

From left, Imani Pabon, 4; Aliza Pino, 4; Queen Wimberly with daughter Janaiya Wimberly, 4; Anya Chervak, 4; and Marie Fahlsing, 4, dressed in patriotic hats and colors, parade around the Edgewood Area Child Development Center to celebrate the Army's 233rd Birthday June 10.



PHOTO BY IRIS CRUZ-STORY

From left Jordon Taylor, 4; Leah Dah, 4; Anya Chervak, 4; and Grace Mitchell, 4, observe Nathan Hoang, 4, and Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Rodriguez cut the cake during the Edgewood Area Child Development Center's Army Birthday June 10.



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Javon Chamers and Kayla Robinson hold hands and wave American flags during the Aberdeen Area Child Development Center's Army Birthday parade June 12.

Weeklong celebration highlights Army birthday



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

At the Edgewood Area Youth Center, from left, Tatyana Moon, Elise Stole and Kareem Johnson take turns reading the Army Birthday book aloud, one of several activities held during the week to celebrate the Army's 233rd birthday.

Commentary: The Army embodies American values

By **DAVID W. KUHN SR.**
Army News Service

Saturday [June 14] was an important day - the Army's 233rd Birthday. I hope Soldiers care. It would be a shame if they didn't.

This is a time to pause and reflect with pride on the remarkable organization we all - Soldiers, civilian employees, Family members - are part of. For longer than our nation has existed, the Army has embodied what it means to be American.

More than any institution, the Army is based on ideals. This isn't just a job. All of us are part of an organization that has succeeded because it knew what it

stood for - whether those ideals were expressed as "Duty, Honor, Country," or as seven core values. Since 1775, those have been the bedrock principles that have taken Soldiers from every walk of life and molded them to represent the best America has to offer.

We often apply sports terms to the Army. We talk about being part of a team. Army speechwriters love to quote great coaches from the past. But those comparisons don't tell the whole story.

It is a matter of who you are, not just what you do. Sports teams practice and compete together, but the Army calls for much more. You play sports, but you ARE a Soldier.

The Army is more like a Family

than an athletic team. Just as American Families come from all over the world, the Army Family tree has roots and branches that encompass all the diversity of our nation.

The Army has a few shameful pages in its past, but so do most Families. Just as many Families can look back at a distant uncle or cousin who committed a murder or was a member of the Ku Klux Klan, we have had our Sand Creek massacres and our My Lai's. But those have been aberrations, dark chapters that stand out for their contrast to the norm.

They are outweighed by the countless acts of generosity and sacrifice that represent the real nature of the American Soldier.

Just like a Family, we build

up a library of stories we like to remember. All Soldiers and their loved ones can look at surprising, strange and outright bizarre things they have seen during their service. They are the topics of war stories and the sources of smiles and belly laughs for years, whenever old comrades gather together - just like the stories that circulate at every Family reunion.

And, just like a Family, the Army always comes to the help of its members when tragedy happens. I have lost track of the numerous accounts I have heard over the years of the support Soldiers have shown to the loved ones of those who died in our nation's service.

Finally, just as in a Family, it is painful to see members, who should

know better, behave in a way that dishonors or shows a lack of respect for all the Army has done.

Every Soldier who fakes an injury to go to sick call, every leader who places career before the welfare of subordinates, every worker who does less than his best and smirks, "Good enough for government work," disrespects and insults the many around him who take their oaths and duty seriously.

That's why the Army birthday is important. That's why we should all remember the occasion.

After all, we're part of the Family.

(Editor's note: David W. Kuhns Sr. is editor of the Fort Lewis' "Northwest Guardian.")